Assistant/Associate Professor – Geotechnical Engineering

The Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) at Virginia Tech invites applications for a tenured/tenure-track faculty position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor in Geotechnical Engineering, with a research focus on geotechnical aspects of coastal engineering, effective August 2024. We are seeking candidates motivated to contribute to a collegial, interdisciplinary community with a strong tradition of both fundamental and applied research. Candidates are expected to lead innovative scholarship and research, develop and sustain an externally-funded research program, teach and mentor undergraduate and graduate students, and serve the university and the profession. The successful candidate will have a Ph.D. in civil engineering or a closely related field, a record of academic accomplishments commensurate with rank, an ability to work collaboratively, a commitment to interdisciplinary research and instruction, and a willingness to expand disciplinary boundaries to address complex technical and societal challenges. The capacity to obtain registration as a Professional Engineer (PE) is desirable, but not required. We seek candidates with a research focus on geotechnical aspects of coastal engineering with possible focus areas on coastal resilience, soil erosion, and port engineering. The ideal candidate will also have the ability to develop funding in renewable energy, offshore data analytics, natural hazards, earth observation, or climate-driven coastal change and adaptation. Successful applicants will contribute to the emerging area of coastal and offshore geotechnics and work collaboratively with Center for Coastal Studies research teams.

The CEE Department has 49 tenured/tenure-track faculty and 7 professors of practice. Five faculty are recent early investigator recipients, and numerous other faculty are recognized nationally and internationally. The department is home to approximately 670 undergraduate students and 350 full-time graduate students. The civil and environmental engineering undergraduate programs are currently ranked 6th and 9th, and the civil and environmental engineering graduate programs are ranked 7th and 5th by U.S. News & World Report (USN&WR).

The Geotechnical Engineering Program at Virginia Tech is widely recognized as one of the top programs in the country. Key strengths include expertise that spans a broad range of topical areas within geotechnics, providing a strong backbone for collaborative work; strong links to practice through our industrial affiliates program, the Center for Geotechnical Practice and Research (CGPR); fully-equipped, dedicated research and teaching laboratories, which are among the best geotechnical laboratories in the U.S. This hire aligns with Virginia Tech’s increasing interdisciplinary capacity and disciplinary excellence in coastal hazards and resilience.

Virginia Tech is a public land-grant university, committed to teaching and learning, research, and outreach to the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world. Building on its motto of Ut Prosim (that I may serve), Virginia Tech is dedicated to InclusiveVT—serving in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence. Virginia Tech actively seeks a broad spectrum of candidates to join our community in preparing leaders for the world. The College of Engineering undergraduate program ranks 13th, and graduate program ranks 30th among all U.S. engineering schools (USN&WR). The Mission of the College of Engineering is to educate and inspire our students to be critical thinkers, innovators and leaders. Our core values are inclusiveness, excellence, integrity, perseverance, and stewardship.

Virginia Tech’s main campus is located in Blacksburg, VA, in an area consistently ranked among the country’s best places to live. In addition, our facilities in the Washington, D.C. area offer unique proximity to government and industry partners and are also expanding rapidly, with Virginia Tech’s exciting new Innovation Campus in Alexandria, VA, slated to open in 2024.

Applicants must apply online at jobs.vt.edu (posting number 527321). Application materials include a cover letter, CV, up to three relevant research publications, and contact information for at least three professional references. In addition, applicants must provide a research statement and a statement of teaching and mentoring philosophy (up to 3 pages each) including the candidate’s ideas for supporting an equitable and inclusive educational environment consistent with the Virginia Tech Principles of Community; specific examples of experiences, activities, and plans will help us identify candidates who can support and extend our University’s commitment to
inclusive excellence. Review of applications will commence on November 20, 2023 and continue until the position is filled. Questions regarding the position should be directed to Dr. Adrian Rodriguez-Marek at adrianrm@vt.edu.

The department fully embraces Virginia Tech’s Commitment to increase faculty, staff and student diversity; to ensure a welcoming, affirming, safe and accessible campus climate; to advance our research, teaching, and service mission through inclusive excellence; and to promote sustainable transformation through institutionalized structures. Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status, or otherwise discriminate against employees or applicants who inquire about, discuss, or disclose their compensation or the compensation of other employees or applicants, or on any other basis protected by law. If you are an individual with a disability and need an accommodation, please contact Rachel Atwell at raesquivel@vt.edu.